Why Atlantis Was Allowed to Perish

The Esoteric History of the Earth
By WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY



The Twentieth of
The
GALAHAD
LECTURES

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THE TWENTIETH LECTURE

THE GREATEST catastrophe of mortal times within our solar system was, beyond challenge, the collision of the twin planets Quain and Habal. The major catastrophe to our particular globe, however, was not this "fall of Lucifer," notwithstanding its far-reaching effects upon the Earth, but the wholesale destruction of the vast Mother Continent of Atlantis. The Deluge of the Bible drops into a place third in importance compared with these two cataclysms. Whether the three were all phases of one cataclysmic sequence, whether one was contingent upon the other, or whether long periods of time elapsed between them, is the special research to which our attention is now called. Certain it is, that the effects of all three have been more or less confused and welded, in considering their influence on present-day learning and our heritage of culture.

Looking in retrospect at the events of history is like looking in retrospect at the trees of a forest. While we are in the forest, or upon the edge of it, we see the individual trees composing it; each has character, or marks our journeyings over its area. But the moment the forest has been left behind, the individual trees begin to blend into the forest landscape as a whole. Soon no one tree is distinguishable. We see the bowered area as a totality. We think of it as having personality, like Windsor Forest, or the Black Forest of Bavaria.

Glancing backward at great events which came to pass upon this earth, we lump them into sequences. All that went before the rise and fall

of mighty Egypt is badly jumbled into folklore. All the incidents which ensued after the departure of the Children of Israel into Canaan are fused together upon another page of history; only the erudite remember that almost as much time elapsed between the Exodus and the birth of the Savior, as has elapsed since the Star rose over Bethlehem. Undoubtedly a thousand years hence, in considering American history, Washington, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt will be considered as having lived and functioned in the same period and practically as contemporaries.

Humanity cannot be censured for this. There is no reason why it should be censured. There are few ways in which chronology can be read correctly over vast periods of time, as written history alters in language and terminology, or the materials or surfaces which have recorded it crumble under the corrosion of centuries.

BIBLE history divides past world-life into three great periods: First, that between Eden and the Flood; Second, that between the Flood and the coming of the Messiah; Third, events attendant on or following the Messiah's spiritual ministry. Strictly speaking, the Biblical accounts of all three are little more than folklore. They have no more tangibility of evidence for their chronologies than Greek mythology. The Hebrews of Israel declare that they have kept true records showing the generations from Adam down to Joseph the father of Jesus. Their contention is absurd and fallacious. They did nothing of the sort. For a thousand years Israel was a wandering, nomad people. Wandering, nomad people do not keep records. Before the Egyptian bondage there is no authentic record of them as being a caste-conscious people at all, and therefore no reason existed why they should keep such records. Not until the Levites, or Priest Clan, had attained to such a degree of legalism that they could call themselves a priesthood over a specific racial strain, did they begin to bethink themselves of a literature or of historical records. Finally, in the year 757 B. C., at Jerusalem, one Ezra, a High Priest, began a compilation of all the Israelitish myths and folklore. He affected to get this in all its purity from Moses. He made a great encyclopedia of the "sacred" history of the Israelites, and it has come down to us with various alterations from time to time, as the first half of our Old Testament. That Ezra deliberately wrote the first half of the Old Testament, and doubt-

less fabricated a great deal of it to fill in gaps or to suit the purposes of his people, is attested by the fact that the religious interpretations of the Hebrews of pre-delugian history follow the religious interpretations of the different peoples under whose culture the wandering Israelites came, from age to age. We shall see specifically what these interpretations and cultures were, in our studies of the evolution of Hebrew legalism after the Exodus. Ezra seems to have been a great Israelite scholar who simply reached out and helped himself to whatever material he saw conveniently at hand. He compiled it between one pair of covers, and his work was later augmented by the equally crafty literary artisan Jeremiah, and blandly handed down to posterity as the official account of earth's peoples with the concurrence and endorsement of the Hebrew God, Yahva, or as we get the word today, Jehovah, thus affecting to make it irrefutable. There is no more credible authenticity behind it than there is credible authenticity behind the chronology of Greek mythology, I say. And as we proceed with these lectures after the Egyptian period, I hope you will become convinced that my contention is correct in logic.

So we can no more depend on the Old Testament to give us a correct agenda of humanity's affairs before the Deluge, than we can depend on Egyptian or Mayan hieroglyphics or the stories of Greek and Roman demigods. Certain things happened in that pre-delugian period and folklore kept the memory of them alive. But folklore made a curious jumble of time-episodes, exactly as though a grandmother told a child the story of Abraham Lincoln one night, of George Washington the next night, and of Christopher Columbus the third night—and the child grew to manhood or womanhood insisting therefrom that George Washington came after the time of Abraham Lincoln, and Christopher Columbus after both. It is to history in other forms, geologically and ethnologically, which embraces archaeology, that we must turn for the plausible sorting out of this curious jumble of fact and myth.

It seems logical to accept that once upon a time the ill-fated but gloriour Empire of Atlantis existed, with the headquarters of its culture in the heart of a continent now sunken beneath the waves of the Atlantic. For some reason or other it was destroyed. It seems logical to accept that once upon a time too there was a heavenly holocaust, in which nearby planets fused together and showered fire upon the earth. We can accept logically also that once upon a time much of the earth's exposed land surface was submerged by stupendous flood. But in

just what order to place these three catastrophes, is a problem that might better be left to other agencies than sacred history.

WHEN the famous Babylonian tablets were dug up in and around the site of ancient Ninevah, and upon translation were found to attest the interstellar collision apostrophized in Isaiah, a Biblical record got a fairly authentic attestment. But not the time elements involved. Insofar as the Deluge is concerned, when Solon, the Greek historian and scholar, visited Egypt, the priests of Sais said to him: "You have no antiquity of history, and no history of antiquity. O Solon, Solon, you Hellenes are but children, and there is never an old man who is a Hellene. In mind you are all young. There is no old opinion handed down among you by ancient tradition, nor any science which is hoary with age. And we will tell you the reason for this. There have been, and there will be again, many destructions of mankind arising out of many causes. There is a story which even you have preserved, that once upon a time Phaeton, the son of Helios, having yoked the steeds in his father's chariot, because he was not able to drive them in the way of his father, burnt up all that was upon the earth and was himself consumed by a thunderbolt. Now this has the form of a myth, but really signifies a declension of the bodies moving around the earth and in the heavens, and a great conflagration of things upon the earth occurring at long intervals of time. When this happens, those who live upon the mountains, or in dry and lofty places, are more liable to destruction than those who dwell by rivers or upon the seashore, and from this calamity the Nile, which is our never-failing savior, saves and delivers us. When, on the other hand, the gods purge the earth with a deluge of water, among you herdsmen and shepherds of the mountains are the survivors, whereas those of you who live in cities are carried by the rivers into the sea. But in this country neither at that time nor at any other does the water come from above on the fields, having always a tendency to come up from below, for which reason the things preserved here are said to be the oldest. The fact is, that wherever the extremity of winter frost or of summer sun does not prevent, the human race is increasing at times, and at other times diminishing in numbers. And whatever happened, either in your country or in ours, or in any other region of which we are informed—if any action which is noble or great, or in any other way

remarkable, has taken place—all that has been written down of old and is preserved in our temples. Whereas you and other nations are just being provided with letters and other things which States require; and then at the usual period the stream from heaven descends like a pestilence, and leaves only those of you who are destitute of letters and education; and thus you have to begin all over again as children, and know nothing of what happened in ancient times, either among us or among yourselves. As for those geologies of yours, which you have recounted to us, Solon, they are no better than the tales of children, for in the first place, you remember one deluge only, whereas there were many of them; and in the next place, you do not know that there dwelt in your land the fairest and noblest race of men that ever lived, of whom you and your city are but a seed or remnant. And this was unknown to you, because for many generations the survivors of that destruction died and made no sign. For there was a time, Solon, before the greatest deluge of all, when the city which now is Athens was first in war, and was preeminent for the excellence of her laws, and is said to have performed the noblest deeds, and to have had the fairest constitution of any of which tradition tells, under the face of heaven."

Solon marveled at this and earnestly requested the priests to inform him exactly and in order about these former citizens. "You are welcome to hear about them, Solon," the priests replied, "both for your own sake and for that of the city, and above all for the sake of the goddess who is the common patron and protector of both our cities. She founded your city a thousand years before ours, receiving from the Earth and Hephaestus the seed of your race, and then she founded ours, the constitution of which is set down in our sacred registers as 8,000 years old. As touching the citizens of 9,000 years ago, we will briefly inform you of their laws and of the noblest of their actions, and the exact particulars of the whole we will hereafter go through at our leisure in the sacred registers themselves. If you compare these very laws with your own, you will find that many of them are the counterpart of yours, as they were in the olden time."

WE SHALL go more exhaustively into the details of Pelasgian and Atlantean culture, as reported to Solon, when we have straightened out this matter of the Quain-Habal catastrophe, which started the pyramid-building all over the earth, and the time of the deluge episode which perplexes so many people in Holy Writ. The point to be emphasized now is, as the priests of Sais reported to Solon, that the world has seen many major catastrophes, but modern humanity, having no key to the cryptography of their dates, fuses and welds them together but fails to distinguish at the same time the significance of each upon human thinking and human customs.

Let us linger for a few moments, in elucidation of this, upon the Quain-Habal catastrophe. Before it happened, humanity had always conceived of the Deity as beneficent. After it happened, humanity had been left with the psychological complex of a deity that could also be wrathy and inflict unspeakable chastisement upon hapless peoples of Earth. And that complex has come down through ten thousand years of human thinking, until today it is quite as much a part of theology as it was among the barbarians of western Atlantis or the Sun Worshipers of Maya. Hebrew sacred literature, on which Christianity is based, reeks with the horror of it. It works introvertly, and we have the solemn assurance of mystics that even Atlantis perished because of her decadence and wickedness, from the vengeance of Deity. Hundreds of thousands believe this, just as hundreds of millions believe in a Christian God who once played partners with the Israelites and bestowed favors on them which worked much damage to other races that He had created. Ten thousand church spires still attest the type of God who delights in the smell of burning entrails, and who thoroughly approves of the vicarious-atonement scapegoat ideology to set everything right for the "sins" of "Adam." The animal nature in man abets this. His physical weakness lends a timidity to his spirit that grovels before such a piece of venal blasphemy. And he builds his entire culture on the assumption that if such a thing happened once, it can easily happen again. Even the Beloved and Gentle Jesus of Galilee is ultimately to return to this earth in a chariot of fire, accompanied by earthquake and universal doom, heralded by panic-making angels. Here is symbology raised to the nth degree of superstitious barbarism. And it all goes back, back, to a racial fear complex caused by an interstellar catastrophe, and capitalized by a voracious priestcraft for tighter

control over the destinies of men for their own advantage. Persian Zoroastrianism, with its utilization of the Ahriman-Devil idea, is grafted upon the old Baal concept of the Avatar-Ruler deliverer, and the pernicious fright complex called Religion has made cravens and villains down a thousand generations.

The true scholar who knows his prehistoric history, sees in all this naught but the effects of a solar catastrophe, or perhaps several solar catastrophes, which, rightfully understood in an age of astronomical enlightenment, would completely alter the character and ministry of the Galilean. But the priests and theologians of today seem to be quite as voracious for power in sacred matters, and quite as venal opportunists in capitalizing on humanity's planetary misfortunes, as ever they were in the days of Atlantean Baalism or Sun Worship. Having lost their true psychic powers and transcendental talents, the capitalization of such racial fear complexes is all that is left to them to maintain their grasp upon the masses. Otherwise they would be ignored. Humanity would discover that it is quite possible for each man and woman to be his or her own priest, since communion with The Almighty Father is strictly a personal matter with the human soul, abundantly attested and preached by Jesus.

Jesus came striving to clean up these ugly old precepts and concepts, and the irony of His ministry has been that instead of metamorphosing the fear complex or graduating the sons of men out of it, the thelogians played the despicable trick of adding Him and His precepts and concepts to it, and made one grand superstitious hodge-podge of the whole. Small wonder that the agnostic is entirely confused and not a little cynical. The wonder is, that all religious students, and indeed all religionists of any stamp, are not professional cynics.

HOW little was known or suspected, that the Divine Drama of Lucifer and the Fall of the Angels might be folklore depicting an interstellar event, with no divine significance at all, until almost down into our own generation. Then one Denton, state geologist of New Hampshire, who was also an amateur astronomer of some distinction, published a book called "The Soul of Things."

Mr. Denton had dwelt long and studiously over the question of that vast empty space between Mars and Jupiter, which by the dictates of Bode's Law should contain its major planet. When and as the Planetoids came to be discovered, it occurred to Denton that these little groups of eccentric vagabond planets might well be the remnants of a once mighty planet that Isaiah designated as Lucifer. He began to experiment to prove the truth of his hypothesis, by utilizing a psychometric boy. Let me digress a moment here to explain exactly what is meant by a psychometric boy in this connection. It does not necessarily mean a person sensitive at reading Vibrations that constitute the essence of things. The subject with whom Mr. Denton worked might better be termed a "cataleptic psychometrist."

Now we are discovering in metaphysics some strange properties in the human ensemble which materialistic scientists will not admit as yet because those properties are by nature esoteric. We who are esoteric students as well as scholars of materialistic things, not recognizing any essential difference between the two, but eager only to get at Truth, can easily follow Mr. Denton in his experiments not only with sympathy but with understanding.

Let me illustrate what Mr. Denton did, and what I myself have done, by describing an incident which occurred in Belgium back at the turn of the century. Two metaphysicians were extremely puzzled by feats which were being performed before their eyes by a young man who succumbed easily to cataleptic hynopsis. Whenever they hypnotized this young man and asked him what was happening at a distant place, invariably on coming from his trance he was able to tell them. He could find lost articles with ease. He could give them a knowledge of gatherings and sayings of friends of the moment who might be separated from them by thousands of miles of water. Was there really no such thing as time or space, they wondered, to the higher faculties? Finally they hit upon the expedient of attempting to photograph the young man before, during, and after hypnosis, to learn whether the

camera would pick up anything remarkable about his behavior which their eyes could not. They performed this photography with a quartz lens, or a lens that had a lead filter to extract the actinic rays from light. The young man was hypnotized, when the camera had been made ready, and the taking of pictures began. He was told to report to them what was occurring in a distant city. The pictures were snapped at regular intervals while the lad remained in trance. He was photographed in the act of "awakening" to report his findings. When the experiment was over, the scientists repaired to their darkroom and the development of their plates began.

To their stark amazement they discerned upon the negatives the pictorial record of the young man's ectoplasm, or pattern-body, apparently composed of nothing but Light, arising from his entranced physical body, turning from the photographers and disappearing out through one of the walls of the room in which the experiment was being held. After a while the negatives disclosed this Light Body coming back through the same wall, walking to the entranced body, sitting down upon it or in it. Whereupon the youth awakened and made his accurate report of the distant occurrences.

What was happening at each of these experiments was, that the young man in catalepsy was being freed from the encumbrances of his physical body. He was actually going in disembodied spirit to a distant place, observing the occurrences or events, returning and making literal reports as an eye witness.

Such things are actualities, and can no more be laughed aside because the normal eye cannot behold them, than the fact of the human aura can be laughed aside because the ordinary eye is too clumsy to pick it up in daylight, or that radio waves exist notwithstanding the normal ear cannot hear them. Not only can people be sent out of their bodies at will, without physical death's resulting, but there are persons who can detach themselves and go out at will, travel with the speed of light to a given spot, observe what is passing there, and come back and reoccupy their bodies, without anyone's suspecting what has happened. I say in no spirit of conceit, but as the submission of an interesting academic fact that does not become a part of my thinking from hearsay, that under certain conditions I can perform this feat myself, and have done so, and have had my friends confirm that my physical body was reposing among them in one place while an identical manifestation of myself in a Light Body was occurring at another, fully attested

by recognition in the second place as well as the first. Many persons can truthfully recount similar experiences, and attest that I do not speak necromantically.

It was with such a person that Denton made his now-famous experiments. But he did not merely send his subject's Light Body, containing a phase of his consciousness, to another spot upon the earth's surface. He proceeded to send it out into interstellar space to witness the astral record of what may have occurred tens of thousands of years in the past, on the principle that vibrations of such episodes, once set in movement do not perish but may be observed if the recording machinery is sufficiently delicate.

Denton found this boy bringing back reports of a terrific collision in the heavens, with a fragment of the colliding bodies plunging into the earth's sphere of influence and being drawn at a frightful speed to its surface. He had full corroboration from this cataleptic boy, of what he suspected as a sound astronomer. Bear in mind that this occurred before the famous tablets were discovered near the site of ancient Ninevah confirming both experiments and hypothesis.

These tablets, when translated, even gave names to the twin planets as they were known and witnessed in the sky at the time of the Chaldean astronomical observations. From the same ancient record came the names of the fratricidal brothers in Genesis, as well as the myths of the fratricidal brothers all down through history: Castor and Pollux, Romulus and Remus, et al. The Babylonian tablets declared that once between Mars and Jupiter were the twin planets Quain and Habal, revolving around each other and forming the bright morning star which is recognized in sacred terminology as Lucifer. When the ancients observed the collision and suffered the approach and impact of the vast molten fragment, which struck Earth as per the narrative in our foregoing lecture, they at once seized upon the notion of a "war in heaven" and the "casting forth" of rebellious spirits. Michael was supposed to "fight the Dragon," because in hurtling through space in elongated form, the fragment had the aspect of a gigantic fiery snake. A titanic piece of astronomical symbology comes to us as the very cornerstone of modern theology, for challenging which, heretics or agnostics are still pilloried or burned at the stake, figuratively if not literally. The Denton book, "The Soul of Things," has long been out of print and is extremely difficult to procure. But all of the geologist's psychometric findings were confirmed and corroborated by archae-

ology—to which facts modern scientists present an absolutely blind eye and deaf ear. It would "overturn existing institutions," meaning specifically religious or theological fiats, if the truth were given to people generally. Therefore you not only hear nothing concerning this astronomical episode, but will confront an expression of facetious comment or utter denial of the knowledge, if you try to get confirmation from "experts."

CURIOUS to find out for my own first-hand information whether the Denton experiments were bona fide and could be repeated, I engaged with a profound scholar and metaphysician to perform some experiments with a sensitized young man of our acquaintance who was cheerfully willing to be sent, either out of his body into interstellar space, or back into the recesses of his prenatal memory. This thing took place before my eyes and ears in my office in Washington, D. C., on the 14th of April, 1932—

Using a simple form of mesmerism first made a scientific study by Reichenbach, the young man was sent back some fifteen or twenty previous earthly lives to witness an episode in which he participated in ancient Cuzco, in Central America, some twelve thousand years ago. While he was deep, deep in the recesses of his Eternal Mind, witnessing in actual visual memory the events of the particular episode which had to do with a grisly sun sacrifice, the eminent doctor who was performing the experiment turned to me and remarked: "Now I'm going to bring him back, detach him from his body and propel him out into interstellar space. We'll see if he can witness what the Denton boy saw."

The proper suggestion performed this feat. The amazing part of the experiment was, that while absent from his body, nevertheless a sympathetic life-cord still connected his spirit with his physical ensemble to such a degree that what he was witnessing in the discarnate state registered in his facial expression as he sat before us. We saw all the reactions of wonder, horror, fear, and awe, upon his features. Finally, after twenty minutes, he was gently recalled and restored to mortal consciousness. For several moments after his arousing, he sat weak and stunned, scarcely comprehending that he was back in the earth-state in the year 1932. Then he began this recital—

"I first went back to Cuzco and witnessed the Sun sacrifice. I knew

instantly when you were recalling me and instructing me to make the interstellar journey. The most astounding part of the experience which followed was, that in coming back into the present and projecting forward into interstellar space, I had serried flashes of all my lives I had lived on earth since the one in Cuzco, up to this present one. I even passed the group of you sitting here in this room!

"Forthwith I shot out at incredible speed into starlit night which soon became utter jet. It was a region of the most horrible din, like vast masses of iron meteorites clanging together. Hell's Half-Acre would be a mild term by which to label it. From time to time I seemed to dart consciously through various stratospheres, when worlds became visible to me as they are visible out under the starlit skies of the earth at present. Then I arrived in an area where a grotesque and unspeakably awesome thing was in progress. Stupendous Thought-Forms, best described as products of the Almighty's Brain, were rolling and fashioning before my gaze. I saw Thought seeming to galvanize primordial ether and spin it at an amazing acceleration. Faster and faster it whirled, growing brilliant as a vast spiral nebula, till the eye of my mind could no longer look into it. I seemed to recede where the heat and noise were not so tormenting.

"Next, I saw that great nebula wobble in two great cores, each attached to the other by fiery primordial stuffs that progressively gathered into vortexes. Presently they were separate and distinct but flying in a mammoth orbit around each other like the balls on the end of a chain, in an ancient cross-bolt shot. Gradually this orbit widened between them. Their fields of progress became fixed and rhythmical. Two planets were there in space before my gaze, perfect in contour, spinning with immense heat and brilliance, each equal distance from the other, yet chasing each other around a circular orbit, and the two as one unit flying in an orbit around a mightier centrosome, which must have been our sun. Then came the collision. What caused it? I'll tell you what seemed to cause it!

"A third planet began to take form, by exactly the same process which I have described, and gather speed, brilliance, and gravitational pull, between it and Mars. Presently its whirl was powerful enough to exert an influence on the twin planets I had seen manufactured out of Thought-Forms. It deflected them from their orbits, and in the instant of deflection, the crash occurred. All balances were off, and at the stupendous speed at which they were whirling and traveling, they were

as completely and awesomely out of control as a high-peed racing car on a curve at an international motor meet. The colliding, fusing, and rending, was beyond anything which mortal words can describe. All three heavenly bodies became fiery chaos, and I was being pulled consciously off and away into utter pitch-blackness again, to return and take cognizance of your presence here in this room."

NOW what had happened to our young man? Who can say, at the present stage of our enlightenment? He had never read anything of which we were aware, concerning the Quain-Habal catastrophe. He was an entirely normal young man who worked in my office. Sending him back to the Cuzco episode in his prenatal memory, we can easily understand. If he had not told of being "recalled" and traveling at an incredible rate up through his intervening lives, until he "passed us sitting in that office," we might accept that he had been sent still further back into his visual prenatal memory until he had turned up and rendered preceptible the actual episode of the Luciferian creation in all its majesty, himself an integral part of Holy Spirit witnessing the creation of Quain-Habal before his particular unit of Spirit took mortal incarnation as a man. But he averred that he had "passed us in the room" and gone forth into interstellar space. His account of Hell's Half-Acre coincides accurately with the condition which astronomers and scientists believe to exist in the asteroid belt outside of our stratosphere. His periodic flashes of perception, of visible worlds and chaotic darkness, would bear out the hypothesis that in Space the heavenly bodies are only visible as their light is refracted by the stratosphere of neighboring planets.

But just where did the young man go? He was in deep cataleptic trance before our gaze for a matter of twenty minutes. Yet he described happenings that must have required millenniums of our earthly time to mature and take place. It is not enough to declare that outside of our mortal world there is no such thing as Time or Space. That young man by catalepsy had his perceptions sensitized to such a pitch that he apparently negated time. That, or he read, through eye witnessing, the akashic vibratory records, on the astral plane, of the actual occurrences as they performed ages upon ages in the past.

There seems to be such a thing on the astral plane as "focussing the attention," so we are told by our Higher Mentors, on that which was

of momentous occurrence in the past. When we get out of three-dimensional sense inhibitions, we behold all the universe, not only as it always has been but as it yet will be, in its various manifestations of planetary phenomena. We are told that we as mortals are coming to inventions shortly which shall recapture such spectacles visibly and render them intelligent to mortal eyes. We shall see the sun, the moon, and the stars, as they were in abysmal cosmos and how they propelled themselves out into three-dimensional reality. It is not to solve an equation in fourth-dimensional physics that I have introduced this episode into the present lecture, but to call your attention to an item quite consistent with our theme.

Remember that our young man reported that "a third planet seemed to form in interstellar space, which pulled Quain and Habal off their orbits." That is terribly significant. For it tends to bind in the esoteric with the practically materialistic. Why did that third planet form? What caused it to form, knowing in advance that such terrible denouement might be the celestial penalty?

Could it have become an actuality, even in its archaic state, from the wrong thinking of persons in an earthly tenure, engaging in unhallowed mental practices?

Let us consider this awesome aspect of things for a moment. The theme of our lecture is "Why Atlantis Was Allowed to Perish." I submit to you that it is faintly possible that Atlantis was not "allowed" to perish at all. I submit to you that we may be confronted here with the cataclysmic fact that perhaps degenerate human thinking, perniciously conceiving, may even now set vast Thought Forms in motion out in abysmal Cosmos, equally as devastating in their effects on other planets as wrong thinking on the part of individuals may be disastrous on other individuals; and that thus a force was unleashed in ether, in the form of the Quain-Habal collision, that made the earth-world attract its own perishment.

Do not make light of this thesis until we know more about the mighty functions of the human mind. Let us see what Holy Writ tells us of conditions preceding the Deluge of Noah. I beg to inflict on you what may seem for the moment a commonplace reading. But viewed from a slightly different perspective, in the light of these new doctrines, it may not be so commonplace as we have hitherto consideded it.

In the sixth chapter of Genesis, we find these pronouncements:

"And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, that the Sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

"And the Lord said, my Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.

"There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air: for it repenteth me that I have made them.

"But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

"These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God. And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

"The earth also was corrupt before God; and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth."

Right here, with this Biblical account before us, I want to be allowed to depart from the strictly scientific and historical, and justify the esoteric as having a more important bearing of explanation upon our minds in logic, than that which man exhibits as the true cause for Divine anger at man.

WE ARE told in no uncertain terms that "the earth was corrupt." But just what can be meant by "corruption" in this instance? In the ordinary acceptance of the term, men have been morally corrupt in every age, especially are they morally corrupt today; yet nothing of a cataclysmic nature happens to them, except the corrupt be mingled with and suffer with the non-corrupt.

We must turn to the marvelous revealments of our Liberation Scripts, and learn of man's true progress on this earth through the aeons. To understand the full import of Genesis, we must have reference to the Atlantean knowledge, lost of old, as to why men came to this earth, and what they did after getting here that has perpetually wrought woes of a natural order upon them.

We have seen in earlier lectures in this series, that man originally came here in spiritual form and found an earth that was soft and moist under a great water veil or canopy, the actual Garden of Eden in tropical form, where he went naked until precipitation of the various water rings gradually introduced him to outer, planetary cold. Whereupon he "went forth" from the Edenic condition, and "multiplied" over the face of the globe, until most all of the water canopy was down and he saw the clear heavens and the naked sun.

Very good. But as he came to multiply throughout the earth, and increase in spiritual stature, it seemed the divine plan that avatar individuals or entities should come to him from other dimensions of Cosmos and teach and train him in the exigencies of his new condition. All through Holy Writ and holy utterance, we find perpetual reference to them as the Sons of God, as contradistinguished from the sons of men who were in the earth state learning the great lessons of experience.

Now it seems to have been the plan of things that these divine spirits of a higher order of intelligence and spiritual essence and development, should incarnate among men in the mortal form in order to work and move among mankind without causing friction due to superhuman attainments. That is to say, if these superior teachers had adopted any other form than the mortal, they would quickly have bred antagonism. Men would have feared them instead of loving and mingling with them on a friendly person-to-person basis. They would have been an order of creation outside mortal comprehension or capacity to appreciate. They would have had to function as a race or

a species apart, and as such would not have shown man specifically by performance how he could achieve and become as they. Taking the mortal form was absolutely essential. And yet in their spiritual essence they were far above mortal men, being Sons of God in a higher phase.

Having mortal bodies, however, it was only natural that they should propagate with the "daughters of men." That is to say, they should make common cause with men even in the matter of procreation of young. And this they did. But the biological factor entered in here. Men born of a super-race of divine avatars and yet earthly mothers, would be in fact as well as in fancy, demigods. They would be neither gods nor men. They would have all the divine spiritual attributes, striving to manifest in bodies derived from their strictly mortal mothers. And yet, this was the Plan. Men were meant to have given them this infusion of the blood of divine avatars, biologically speaking; for it is a foregone conclusion that even the avatars could not inhabit flesh without leaving a transcendental impression upon it. Whatever they touched they raised and purified. That would only be a natural result of the operation of the Law of Harmonics.

This being so, it followed that the earthly sons so born had the impetus within them, veritably a part of their cellular lives, to approximate their quasi-divine sires while resting physically in the sensuous endowments of earth-born and inhibited mothers. What was not foreseen was, that these divine-earthly spirits thus inhabiting earthly bodies should come to the curious paradox of using their divine gifts introvertly or to the sense extremes of their mothers yet with all the terrific potencies of their fathers' projections of spirit.

Small wonder there were "mighty men, men of renown" in the earth in those days. Small wonder that the Sons of God beheld the daughters of men and took them wives, all that they chose. But great, great is the wonder that, perceiving the daughters of men were fair, they did not also perceive the things that might happen if they gave themselves over utterly to mental and spiritual estrangement from their fathers' breed and let their corrupted desires and urges dictate the nature and essence of their earthly entrapments. For that thing we witness as probably having occurred. And when the divine in the fathers, wedded to the mortal in the mothers, produced offspring, it was a foregone conclusion that balances would be disturbed, cosmically speak-

ing, that might have utterly reprehensible consequences for the world at large.

We know that the spirits of those same avatars and mortals are today still both functioning side by side. But the mortals have begun to put on immortality, as it were, and create a species or caste for themselves that is far, far ahead of the man-beast mothers, in the direction of the divine avatar-fathers. And the result is what we know as civilization.

¶ Atlantis came to her prime under the mentoring and spiritual rulership of these avatar "Sons of God" from a higher dimension. The country knew them and prospered for generations under the purity of their kingship. But the offspring of such unions where the mothers were, strictly speaking, mortal in the fullest sense of the word, exhibited a strange inheritance. Secure in the possession of certain psychical equipment derived biologically from avatar-fathers, and yet hobbled and inhibited in the true utility of these attributes by the dictates of mortal mothers, backward in spiritual development because of their lower "spiritual species," they gave an appalling display of what the so-called Love Force can do when wrongly directed.

It is an astounding fact, all too frequently encountered in the study of heredity, that when high-caste men and women "marry beneath them" the offspring tend to "take after" the more stupid or retrograde of the parents. Seldom indeed do scientists find that the more advanced partner to the marriage lifts the backward partner into his or her own quality of consciousness, because quality of consciousness is not a matter of either inspiration or mentorship; it is a matter of enhanced self-awareness through long periods of experiencing. It cannot be bestowed by another person. Invariably the more laggardly partner drags the other back down to his own mental or cultural level, or the marriage goes "on the rocks" and the more advanced partner seeks his own blood and kind. The children of such unions "take after" the mothers in greater ratio than after the fathers. There are several notable instances where offspring of high-caste fathers and moronistic mothers have been studied, the John Wentworth case being the most celebrated. The percentage of morons among such progeny is well-nigh incredible. All of the good qualities and high breeding in the more advanced parent seem to go negative and introvert, as though Nature herself frowned on such retrograde misalliances.

From the esoteric standpoint, and because we understand something of the processes constantly going on behind life which the scientist

ignores or discredits, it is highly probable that the greater percentage of backward souls seek such parentage in order to get into life with the chance of earthly culture through such sires, and yet "on the mother's vibration" on which they are operating cosmically themselves. Or retrograde souls may take such opportunity to "slash back" at the spiritually developed father by forcing themselves into an earthly situation where they can fret or discredit him. At any rate, we know that marrying out of caste, which is marrying out of Quality of Consciousness derived from cycles of experiencing, rarely results in happiness or longevity of matrimony. And in the Atlantean culture we apparently have an exhibit of this on a wholesale scale.

The interested student may well inject the question here: "How is the human stock ever to be improved, if the better is not occasionally 'crossed' with the more delinquent in health or culture?" The answer is, human improvement does not derive from cross-breeding of that character at all. To put it in exaggerated form, no breeder of any species is so foolish as to cross a healthy animal with a sick animal, or a deformed animal, thinking to get two or more healthy animals in result. He knows that he does not cure the sick one by such infusion of blood, but merely taints the one that is well and lusty. If the intelligent breeder wants to improve any stock, he continues to breed the strong with the strong, the best exhibits of each species together. And the offspring continues to improve. In the human relationship we too often get confused in these matters because we place a false or merely ethical valuation on what constitutes "blue blood." A "blood" may be utterly decadent in the eyes of the human biologist and yet be classed as "blue" and "aristocratic" by society. A lusty peasant girl may have finer spiritual and physical qualities than the most revered "nobleman," and in the case of such an alliance the "taint" situation is reversed, and the offspring will probably evince all of the decadent traits in the father's character. Standing among men counts for very little; Quality of Consciousness is everything.

To put the case of the Atlantean decadence before you in graphic and accentuated form, consider what might have happened had Jesus married some Galilean fishwife. Possessed of all the stupendous avatar potencies derived from the super-father, yet exhibiting in the inhibited physical and cultural mechanism bestowed by the gross mortal mother, the progeny might have been frightful to contemplate in their powers for good or evil—probably for evil. The world too little recognizes

this same principle often at work in it today. We lament that marriages between great artists, great poets, great spiritual instructors, great ethical leaders, and commonplace partners, seem consistently to go astray. We who are enlightened in such matters know that great artists, great poets, great teachers, are uniformly of the avatar caste of old, come into flesh to inspire the human race to achieve in its own right. Where they cross themselves physically with entirely mortal women, they soon find such unions intolerable and the break arrives inexorably. What truly is happening is, that two separate species are being crossed, and the result is disaster because a celestial law is being violated. The two are operating on entirely different cosmic vibrations. True, they both exhibit in the same type of outward physical form. But the one class of partners might be termed spiritual mentors or divine teachers come down into flesh, whereas the other class may be little better than beasts come up into flesh.

AS WE seem to have gone esoteric in this present lecture, we might well declare that it was no "wrath of God," in the literal sense, that precipitated the destruction of Atlantis, for God is above all such handicaps and inhibitions, or disruptions of poise. True, the results of violating certain natural laws of celestial heredity might well be termed "God's Wrath," but we should begin to recognize the blasphemy in such an assumption as the theologian presents it to us. We should rather concern ourselves with the circumstance that the decadence of Atlantis came about because the celestial potentiality in the mortal species manifested wrongly en masse, and in a manner of speaking overtaxed the mortal mechanisms and went its own way toward the precipitation of vast destruction.

In other words, Atlantis in the days of her decadence destroyed herself, by projecting Thought Forms of mighty malevolence into Cosmos and making it impracticable for such a "civilization" to endure, either as a culture or as a manifested race occupying a planetary allocation. Species had been so corrupted by incorrect crossbreeding that monsters were overrunning society in forms beyond our ability to contemplate. I suggest in connection with this lecture that you read carefully again the First to the Fifth of the esoteric Liberation Psychical Scripts.

Atlantis was more than a place, more than a mere continent spanning the area now covered by the Atlantic. Atlantis was a Divine Idea

projected among evolving mankind in the form of a social state where men should live as Almighty Providence originally intended men to live after they had passed through the fires of social experiencing and learned to recognize the true ethical culture from the false. But after untold generations, the time arrived when the Force that was divine or quasi-divine incarnated in the fathers, crossed with the inhibited or inadequate mortal in the mothers, and found itself at a point where progress was neither normal nor desirable to either in terms of its own satisfactions. The mortal had planetary limitations. The divine was limitless. So the two natures, or conditions, grew increasingly at odds. And the mortal "held down" the divine or perverted it into practices which became divinity gone negative or introvert—a phenomenon we witness all about us even in the present in the psychical accomplishments which we label Black Magic.

The result was increasing chaos and malformation of creation. It was the spiritually celestial running berserk into a morass of carnality. The mighty precepts of divinity were watered or lost in the fleshly accomplishments of creating that which had no constructive, loving purpose behind it. And not having such, the alternative was the negative exhibit, Destruction.

We confront here a mighty mystery as to why this should be so, or why the whole program of prostitution should not have been foreseen in the first place. In a manner of speaking it was known in advance. Yet it had to be gone through with as a gesture in indolence on the part of the evolving mortal, a phase of his evolution, in order to bring him the true grasp of the potentialities of his divine inheritance, toward possession of which in the correct manifestation he was battling his way upward through the aeons. The alternative was annihilation of the spiritual species, or a self-awareness that would ever have remained static—something abhorred in celestial or spiritual physics as the vacuum is abhorred in natural physics.

As for Atlantis, there came a time when she had to be taken away from the earth scheme as a culture, even as she was obliterated as a place. The man-species, considered spiritually, had to function within the bounds of its own orthodoxy, so to speak, and learn from a painful climb to celestiality of thought processes and behavior, what might be called, from the earthly viewpoint, Ethical Perfection.

The decadence of Atlantis, if we wish to term it that, was in reality the prostitution of divine gifts, attributes, and endowments, received from

a line of avatar sires, to the strictly material concernments of flesh and the enhancement of temporal prospects for the individual. To what extent that prostitution progressed we shall consider in our next lecture, "Why the Atlanteans Migrated to Egypt." It was not unlike the very trend that seems so obvious in society today—the application of divine powers of logic and invention to purposes of individual aggrandizement or species destruction—only on a far less dangerous scale today due to the fact that there is at present a great preponderance of persons alive from that Long Ago Age, who have learned the great lesson of divine futility in the strictly earthly exhibit. They are here in fleshly form, yes, but with a deeper sense of understanding. If it were not so, if America did not contain so many of them, America would soon become a shambles.

There was more than an esoteric lesson in the destruction of Atlantis, as is seen in the circumstance that the Powers Behind Cosmos determined that the earth species should be denied the centripetal form of culture in the Hub, that it might apply its lessons in actuality on the world-wheel's rim in those isolated colonies that after countless generations became the mighty nations of the present.

Be that as it may, Atlantis underwent a great Upward Progress in culture under the kingly tutelage of its Avatar-Fathers and its mighty mothers—for make no mistake, the goddesses of the Greeks were the mythical apostrophes of great women quite as much as the gods of ancient mythology again and again are the prototypes of great spiritual avatars whose identities are never recognized and too seldom assumed.

¶ I have digressed from the materialistically historical in this lecture in order that we might tie up in our thinking, certain earthly events of great magnitude with the celestial principles of esoteric doctrine behind them.

We are proving in metaphysics that human thinking is an Originating and Creating Force. Is it so preposterous to contend that massed Atlantean thinking, perversively expended, could have started up great influences in Cosmos that precipitated the giant catastrophes which wrought literal destruction of the nationals responsible?

Let us, who are ploughing a furrow and planting seed, seize upon all the evidence we can, even as far back as primordial history, that may enlighten the advanced thinkers of our own generation and galvanize them into exploring and codifying that which now may seem merely conjectural and abstruse.